

What is claimed is:

1. A washing method comprising:
  - a nonaqueous washing process of washing an object to be washed using
  - 5 a nonaqueous solution;
    - an intermediate washing process of washing the object to be washed using a solution having solubility relative to both an aqueous solution and the nonaqueous solution after said nonaqueous washing process; and
    - 10 an aqueous washing process of washing the object to be washed with the aqueous solution after said intermediate washing process.
- 15 2. A washing method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
  - a drying process of drying the object to be washed between said nonaqueous washing process and said intermediate washing process.
- 20 3. A washing method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the drying process is performed by using a vapor of the solution having solubility relative to both an aqueous solution and the nonaqueous solution.
4. A washing method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
  - a drying process of drying the object to be washed between said intermediate washing process and said aqueous washing process.
- 25 5. A washing method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the drying process is performed by using a vapor of the solution having solubility relative to both an aqueous solution and the nonaqueous solution.
- 30 6. A washing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solution having solubility relative to both an aqueous solution and the nonaqueous solution in the intermediate washing process is a hydrocarbon solution.

7. A washing method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the hydrocarbon solution is alcohol.

5 8. A washing method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the hydrocarbon solution is isopropyl alcohol.

9. A washing method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the hydrocarbon solution is ketone.

10 10. A washing method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the hydrocarbon solution is acetone.

15 11. A washing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ultrasonic vibration is applied during the washing performed in said nonaqueous washing process.

20 12. A washing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ultrasonic vibration is applied during the washing performed in said intermediate washing process.

13. A washing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ultrasonic vibration is applied during the washing performed in said aqueous washing process.

25 14. A washing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the object to be washed are optical components.

30 15. A washing method comprising:  
a nonaqueous washing process of washing an object to be washed using

a nonaqueous solution;

an intermediate washing and drying process of simultaneously washing and drying the object to be washed using a solution having solubility relative to both an aqueous solution and the nonaqueous solution after said nonaqueous 5 washing process; and

an aqueous washing process of washing the object to be washed with the aqueous solution after said intermediate washing process.

16. A washing method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the 10 intermediate washing and drying process is performed by using a vapor of the solution having solubility relative to both an aqueous solution and the nonaqueous solution.

17. A washing method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the solution 15 having solubility relative to both an aqueous solution and the nonaqueous solution in the intermediate washing process is a hydrocarbon solution.

18. A washing method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the object to be washed are optical components.